(c) In order to ensure timely utilisation of funds provided for the welfare and upliftment of Scheduled Tribes and the scope for possible diversion of funds is minimised, the following measures have been taken:—

(i) Utilisation Certificates for earlier releases are insisted upon as a prerequisite for further release of funds;

(ii) Periodic progress reports regarding the status of implementation of schemes are obtained;

(iii) Central Government officers visit the States/U.Ts. to ascertain on the spot the progress of implementation of schemes.

(iv) Meetings/Conferences are convened at central level with the State Secretaries of Tribal Welfare to ensure timely submission of proposals for release of funds and to speed up implementation of schemes;

(v) At the State level, the agencies like Tribal Advisory Committee, Project implementation Committee of ITDPS at Block levels, and Panchayat Samities monitor timely spending of money and effective implementation of schemes.

Submission of State Governor's report on scheduled areas of Andhra Pradesh

1555. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Andhra Pradesh has not submitted State Governor's report in respect of the scheduled areas of the state for the last many years, which is compulsory to be sumitted every year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Annual Report of Governor on the administration of scheduled areas in Andhra Pradesh has not been received for the years 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000.

(c) The State Government has been requested to expedite early submission of reports.